

POISONS RULES AMENDMENT

HOME OFFICE NOTICE TO TRADERS

CHANGES ON JANUARY 1

The Home Office draws the attention of traders and others to the Poisons (Amendment) Rules, 1938, and the Poisons List (Amendment) Order, 1938, which were made by the Secretary of State on December 15, and will come into operation on January 1, 1939.

Rule 7 (4) of the Poisons Rules, 1935, has been amended so as to provide that a signed order for a First Schedule Poison (not being a poison to which the Dangerous Drugs Acts apply) given by a duly qualified medical practitioner, registered dentist, registered veterinary surgeon, a hospital, infirmary, dispensary or clinic, need not contain a statement of the purpose for which the poison is required, if the seller is reasonably satisfied that the poison is required for the purpose of medical, dental, or veterinary treatment.

Rule 17 has been re-enacted with amendments to permit the following new methods of labelling:—

(1) When a poison is named specifically in the Poisons List and is the subject of a monograph in the British Pharmacopoeia or the British Pharmaceutical Codex, one of the names at the head of the monograph in the British Pharmacopoeia or the British Pharmaceutical Codex, as the case may be, may be used to describe the poison, instead of the term in the Poisons List.

(2) A substance which is the subject of a monograph in the British Pharmacopoeia or in the British Pharmaceutical Codex and any dilution, concentration, or admixture of such a substance may be named with the name used to describe the substance in the British Pharmacopoeia or in the British Pharmaceutical Codex with the addition of the letters B.P. or B.P.C., as the case may be. The similar provision already applicable to preparations, and to dilutions or admixtures of such preparations in the British Pharmacopoeia or in the British Pharmaceutical Codex, is now extended to concentrations of such preparations.

(3) In the case of a preparation containing a poison mentioned in the first column of the Sixth Schedule to the Rules, it will be sufficient, where the name of a poison or substance is mentioned in the relevant particulars in the second column of that schedule, to state the name of that poison or substance.

(4) In the case of preparations derived from nux vomica or from opium, and containing one or more alkaloids of nux vomica or of opium named in the Poisons List, it will be sufficient to use the name "strychnine" or "morphine," as the case may be, or one of the names or abbreviated names of strychnine or morphine, as the case may be, set out at the head of the monographs in the British Pharmacopoeia or the British Pharmaceutical Codex.

SURGICAL DRESSINGS

Substances are now included with preparations and surgical dressings in the provision contained in Rule 18 (3) that, where they are named in accordance with Rule 17 (2), the proportion of poison contained in them need not be stated on the label. The provisions of the same paragraph as to the method of expressing the proportion of poison in a dilution or admixture of a preparation so named are now extended to concentrations of such preparations and to dilutions, concentrations, and admixtures of substances so named.

Other amendments to Rule 18 and to the Sixth Schedule enable the proportion of the poison in preparations containing nux vomica or opium, and in preparations derived from nux vomica or from opium and containing one or more alkaloids of nux vomica or of opium named in the Poisons List, to be stated in terms of the proportion of strychnine or of morphine respectively.

A further amendment to the Sixth Schedule enables the proportion of insulin in a preparation to be stated in terms of units of activity as defined in the British Pharmacopoeia.

FLUTED BOTTLES

By an amendment to Rule 22 (1) (b) glass bottles containing local anaesthetics for injection in the treatment of human or animal ailments will no longer be required to have a fluted outer surface.

Benzedrine and related substances (except when contained in inhalers) are included in Part I of the Poisons List and also in the First Schedule and paragraph 1 of the Seventh Schedule to the Poisons Rules. Sulphanilamide and related substances are included in Part I of the Poisons List and also in the First and Fourth Schedules to the Poisons Rules. Additions have been made to the special exemptions in Group II of the Third Schedule to the Poisons Rules, to exempt from all control under the Act and Rules benzedrine and related substances contained in inhalers, and dinitrocresols in substances other than preparations for the treatment of human ailments.

Amendments made in the Fifth Schedule to the Rules permit listed sellers to sell ointments containing nitrobenzene for the treatment of animals, and photographic solutions or materials containing metallic oxalates (other than potassium quadroxalate).

Copies of the Order (price 1d. net) and Rules (price 2d. net) may be purchased from the Stationery Office.

Poisons Rules Amendment.

The Times (London, England), Friday, Dec 23, 1938; pg. 16; Issue 48185. (840 words)

Category: News

© Times Newspapers Limited

Gale Document Number:CS268907415